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registry, or merchant mariner's document, unless the individual holds a valid license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document, as appropriate, authorizing service in the capacity in which the individual is engaged or employed and the individual serves within any restrictions placed on the license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner's document.

[CGD 81-059, 54 FR 149, Jan. 4, 1989]

§ 15.405 Familiarity with vessel characteristics.

Each licensed, registered, or certificated individual must become familiar with the relevant characteristics of the vessel on which engaged prior to assuming his or her duties. As appropriate, these include but are not limited to: general arrangement of the vessel; maneuvering characteristics; proper operation of the installed navigation equipment; firefighting and lifesaving equipment; stability and loading characteristics; emergency duties; and main propulsion and auxiliary machinery, including steering gear systems and controls.

§15.410 Licensed individuals for assistance towing vessels.

Every assistance towing vessel must be under the direction and control of a licensed individual authorized to engage in assistance towing under the provisions of 46 CFR 10.482.

[CGD 87-017, 53 FR 18562, May 24, 1988]

Subpart D—Manning Requirements; Inspected Vessels

§15.501 Certificate of inspection.

- (a) The certificate of inspection (COI) issued by an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI), to a vessel required to be inspected under 46 U.S.C. 3301 specifies the minimum complement of officers and crew necessary for the safe operation of the vessel.
- (b) The manning requirements for a particular vessel are determined by the OCMI after consideration of the applicable laws, the regulations in this part, and all other factors involved, such as Emergency situations, size and type of vessel, installed equipment, proposed routes of operation including frequency

of port calls, cargo carried, type of service in which employed, degree of automation, use of labor saving devices, and the organizational structure of the vessel.

[CGD 81-059, 52 FR 38652, Oct. 16, 1987, as amended at CGD 81-059, 54 FR 149, Jan. 4, 1989]

§ 15.505 Changes in the certificate of inspection.

All requests for changes in manning as indicated on the certificate of inspection must be made to the OCMI who last issued the certificate of inspection, unless the request is made in conjunction with an inspection for certification, in which case the request should be addressed to the OCMI conducting the inspection.

§15.510 Right of appeal.

Any person directly affected by a decision or action taken under this part, by or on behalf of the Coast Guard, may appeal therefrom in accordance with subpart 1.03 of this chapter.

[CGD 88-033, 54 FR 50380, Dec. 6, 1989]

§ 15.515 Compliance with certificate of inspection.

- (a) Except as provided by §15.725, no vessel may be operated unless it has in its service and on board, the complement required by the certificate of inspection.
- (b) Any vessel subject to inspection under 46 U.S.C. 3301 must, while on a voyage, be under the direction and control of an individual who holds an appropriate license issued by the Coast Guard. For the purposes of this paragraph:
- (1) A voyage is the period of time necessary to transit from the port of departure to the final port of arrival.
- (2) A port does not include an Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) facility as defined in 33 CFR part 140.

[CGD 81-059, 52 FR 38652, Oct. 16, 1987, as amended at USCG-2004-18884, 69 FR 58343, Sept. 30, 2004]

§ 15.520 Mobile offshore drilling units.

(a) The requirements in this section for mobile offshore drilling units (MODUs) supplement other requirements in this part.